(i) Construction of border roads, border fencing and flood lighting;

(ii) Round the clock surveillance of the borders by Border Security Force (BSF) patrols (both land and reverine);

(iii) Setting up of 1185 border outposts, of which 802 have already been established, and 383 additional outposts have been approved; and

(iv) Introduction of modern surveillance equipments gadgets including night vision devices.

The issue of illegal migration, and deportation on detection has also been taken up with the Bangladesh authorities at various levels, and steps have been initiated for coordinated patrolling and effective border management, particularly in the unfenced, riverine and other vulnerable stretches.

Meeting of Chief Ministers of Naxal hit States

*52. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of Chief Ministers of Naxal-hit States was held in the month of January this year at New Delhi to formulate latest strategies to combat Naxalism;

(b) if so, whether it has been decided to provide guerrilla training to the personnel of para-military forces to fight Naxalites;

(c) if so, to what extent Government has started providing training to the paramilitary forces; and

(d) the time by when such trained personnel are likely to be deployed in the Naxalite areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Training in guerrilla warfare to the para-military force personnel deployed on anti-naxal duties is an on-going process. Some naxal affected States have set up their own specialized training institutions such as Greyhounds Training Institute at Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh, Jungle Warfare Training Institute at Kanker in Chhattisgarh, Jaguar Force Training Institute at Neterhat in Jharkhand and Special Operations Group Training Institute at Bhubaneswar in Orissa. 20 Counter Insurgency and Anti-Terrorist (CIAT) Schools are also proposed to be set up, mostly in Naxal affected areas, to impart specialized training to the State Police/security personnel, in respect of counter-insurgency, jungle warfare and anti-terrorism operations. Of these 8 CIAT schools, including 7 in 4 naxal affected states of Bihar (1), Chhattisgarh (2), Jharkhand (2) and Orissa (2) have been sanctioned in the current year.

It has also been decided to raise 10 Battalions of Specialized Forces, trained and equipped for counter-insurgency and jungle-warfare operations, named as Commando Battalions for

Resolute Action (CoBRA), As part of the Central Reserve Police Force. The locations and time schedule for raising these Battalions is given below:

2008	:	2 – Chhattisgarh and Orissa
2009-10	:	4 – Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand and Maharashtra
2010-11	:	4 – Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand and West Bengal

Low Squadron strength of IAF

*53. SHRI N.K. SINGH:
SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the squadron strength of Indian Air Force (IAF) is at an all time low with only 32 fighter units operational against the sanctioned strength of 39.5 squadrons;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) Induction of new aircraft and replacement of existing aircraft as well as enhancing operational capabilities to meet the prevailing threat scenario is an ongoing process. The Government is fully aware of the needs of the Air Force and has taken a number of steps to fulfil their requirements. The air Force had a strength of 32 combat squadrons at the beginning of the Eleventh Plan against the authorised strength of 39.5 squadrons. With the planned induction of Su-30, Jaguar, Medium Multi Role Combat Aircraft (MMRCA), Fifth Generation Fighter Aircraft (FGFA) and the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) during the period 2007-2022, the strength at the end of Eleventh, Twelveth and Thirteenth Plan periods is expected to increase to 35.5, 35 and 42 squadrons respectively. In addition, steps have been taken to upgrade the existing MiG-21, MiG-27, MiG-29, Jaguar and Mirage-2000 aircraft. Moreover, the induction of force multiplier like AWACS and Flight Refuelling Aircraft together with advanced weapon systems will greatly enhance the combat capability of the Indian Air Force.

Creating anti-Maoist force 'COBRA'

*54. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to create a specialized anti-Maoist force 'COBRA' on the lines of 'Greyhounds';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this project is proposed to be funded by the Centre; and

(d) the time-frame within which this force would be deployed in Orissa and Jharkhand to control this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The Government has sanctioned 10 Commando Battalions for Resolute